

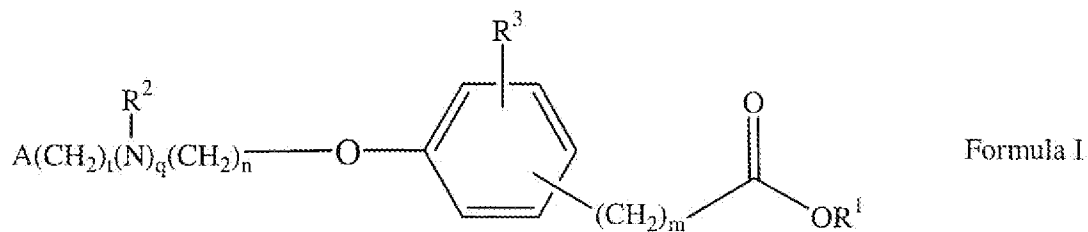
Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 6-13, 24 and 34-41 and amend claims 14, 15, 27 and 28, as shown in the listing of claims that follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (canceled).

14. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment of a condition selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance syndrome, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, fatty liver disease, cachexia, obesity, atherosclerosis, arteriosclerosis and adapted for oral administration, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and from one milligram to four hundred milligrams of a biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R² is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R³ is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is phenyl, ~~unsubstituted or~~ substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy; or
cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl;

or

~~a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I by a ring carbon; and~~

R¹ is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when R¹ is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

15. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein n is 1; q is 0; t is 0; R³ is hydrogen; and

A is phenyl, ~~unsubstituted or~~ substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.

16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl.

17. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, wherein the biologically active agent is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;

Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;

6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;

Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;

5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;

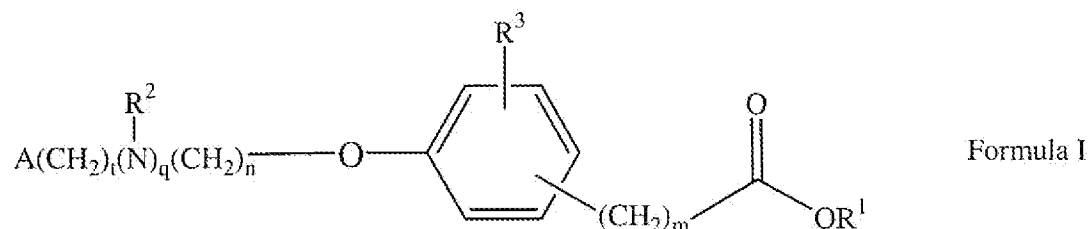
Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;

3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and

Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

18. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14 in oral dosage form.

19. (Previously presented) A biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R² is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R³ is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl ; and

R¹ is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when R¹ is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, wherein the agent is substantially pure.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 19, selected from the group consisting of:

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;

Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;

6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;

Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;

5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;

Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;
3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and
Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

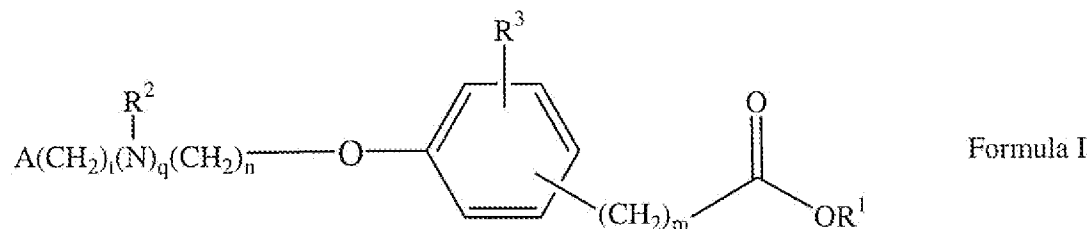
Claim 23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (canceled).

25. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the biologically active agent is 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

26. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 22, being 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

27. (Currently amended) A biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0, 1, 2, 4, or 5;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R² is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R³ is hydrogen, halo, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy;

or

~~_____ a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I by a ring carbon; and~~

R¹ is hydrogen or alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms;

or when R¹ is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, wherein the agent is present in a mammal other than a mouse.

28. (Currently amended) The biologically active agent of claim 27, wherein n is 1; q is 0; t is 0; and R³ is hydrogen

~~;~~ and

~~A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.~~

29. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 28, wherein A is 2,6-dimethylphenyl.

30. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 29, selected from the group consisting of:

3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenylacetic acid;
3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoic acid;
Ethyl 3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)benzoate;
6-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoic acid;
Ethyl 6-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-hexanoate;
5-[3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoic acid;
Ethyl 5-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl]-pentanoate;
3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propionic acid; and
Ethyl 3-[3-(2,6-dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl]-propanoate.

31. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 30, being 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid.

32. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 31, wherein the mammal is a human.

33. (Previously presented) The biologically active agent of claim 27, wherein the mammal is a human.

Claims 34-41 (canceled).